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What is Claimed is:

1. A composition for inhibition of a detrimental cytotoxic T lymphocyte response comprising a compound which mimics or interacts with a surface feature of a CD8/MHC I complex.
2. A method of producing a compound which inhibits a detrimental cytotoxic T lymphocyte response comprising:
 - (a) identifying a surface feature of CD8 specific to the interaction of CD8 with MHC I; and
 - 10 (b) synthesizing a compound which mimics or interacts with the identified surface feature.
3. A method of inhibiting a detrimental T lymphocyte response in an animal comprising administering to the animal a compound which mimics or interacts with a surface feature 15 of a human CD8/MHC I complex.